***Press* Release**

The Meteorological Office

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The Met. Office appoints Lawrenson as Commercial Division Managing Director

Stephen Lawrenson has joined The Met. Office as Managing Director, Commercial Division and main board Director.

Stephen has previously held roles as Head of Commercial Development within Canon and News Corporation, responsible for commercialising technology worldwide.

In April this year, Commercial Division became a trading arm of The Met. Office. As its head, Stephen's role will be to build upon the dominant UK market position and to develop the business worldwide.

"I'm very much looking forward to developing The Met. Office's commercial business," he said. "There is huge potential for enterprises to increase their competitiveness by using Met. Office weather information, which has been shown to be the best in the world."

The Met. Office's Commercial Division now works with more than 50 FTSE 100 companies and provides tailored services to a range of sectors including energy, offshore and the environment.

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